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Micronas.5963  
09/743,926  
8/8/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**APPLICANT:** Blossfeld et al.

**GROUP:** 2862

**SERIAL NO:** 09/743,926

**EXAMINER:** W. E. Snow

**FILED:** March 19, 2001

**FOR:** INTEGRATED CIRCUIT WITH  
A SENSOR ELEMENT FOR PROVIDING  
AN ENCODED OUTPUT SIGNAL [as amended]

**RESPONSE**

This Amendment is in response to the Official Action dated March 17, 2003. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

8.(Previously Added) An integrated circuit sensor, comprising:

C<sup>1</sup>  
a comparator that receives an input signal, and compares said input signal against a plurality of predetermined threshold values and provides a plurality of comparator output signals each indicative of whether or not said input signal exceeds an associated one of said plurality of predetermined threshold values; and

an output stage that receives said plurality of comparator output signals and encodes state information associated with said plurality of comparator output signals to provide on a integrated circuit lead an encoded output signal indicative of said state information associated with said plurality of comparator signals.

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